

JCP DISAVOWS RIOTOUS STUDENT ASSEMBLY

Tokyo, AKAHATA, in Japanese, June 5, 1958--T

(Statement issued by the presidium of the central committee of the Japanese Communist Party on June 4, on the disgraceful incident caused by the leaders of the National Federation of Student Self-Government Associations)

(Text) All comrades of the Communist Party! It is a matter of great regret that the central committee must issue a statement on a disgraceful incident caused by the leaders of the National Federation of Student Self-Government Associations (Zengakuren) at a meeting held at the party headquarters on June 1, when you were busy discussing the results of the recent general elections and preparing for the coming seventh party congress.

The central committee held a group conference of student body members who participated in the Zengakuren conference, in order to discuss the results of the conference and to consolidate their opinions on the future guidance of student movements under the direction of member of the presidium Konno, head of the mass movement department Suzuki, and members of the mass movement department Takahara and Tsushima.

As we anticipated that the next Zengakuren conference would be thrown into confusion because of years-old conflicts of views in the Zengakuren itself, we decided to place the group conferences under the supervision of the central committee. Furthermore, the central committee had held a preliminary meeting to discuss the operation of the group conference, and invited representatives from the two conflicting groups.

Nevertheless, the group conferences was thrown into confusion from the beginning. Some participants refused to accept the policy of the central committee and insisted on electing a chairman from the participants of the group conference, on the strength of past procedures. Therefore, the central committee called a recess in order to save the conference from further unnecessary confusion.

During the recess, the central committee decided to adhere to the policy of presiding over the conference on the condition that it might change the agenda in accordance with the opinions of the Zengakuren participants.

This decision was announced as the conference resumed. A group of deputies, however, rejected it and rushed out of their seats to surround the chairman's platform. They called Comrade Konno and other party central committee members present "class traitors," voiced violent and insulting remarks intolerable to Communist Party members, and throw the conference into chaos so that it became impossible to continue the conference. Chairman Suzuki announced that it was closed.

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The deputies burst into violence and gathered around Comrade Tsushima, mass campaigner, who is in charge of student campaigns. They denounced him as a revisionist and spy. Other party members went to the rescue of Comrade Tsushima, who was exposed to violence. Two deputies, ignoring Comrade Suzuki's announcement that the conference was closed, continued discussions in the name of chairmen, and prevented party presidium member Konno and others from retiring from the conference by the force of majority.

The student deputies forced Comrade Konno to report and reply to questions in written form, over his signature. They decided on more than a dozen items including demands to relieve all central committee members of their posts, and to strike from the party list Comrade Tsushima, and a group led by Comrade Takano of Waseda University, who stand against Zengakuren leadership.

The student deputies demanded the approval of the items decided as a formal procedure in the group conference, and shouted, before they left the party headquarters, that the student party members must get together around the Zengakuren central Executive committee group.

All this is a review of the actual proceedings at the conference. The situation was apparently caused by a minor anti-party group's planned provocation. This is an obvious violation of party order, shows ignorance of party system and principles, and is an absolutely intolerable action.

The central committee weighed the gravity of the situation and, at the joint emergency meeting of the presidium, the secretariat and control committee on June 2, decided as follows:

- 1--Any conference held after the closing of a group conference is invalid.
- 2--Any decision adopted after the closing of a group conference is invalid.
- 3--A special inquiry committee will be established with the control committee as its center in order to cope with the disgraceful incident.
- 4--Konno and other comrades, who were in charge of the group conference, committed serious mistakes in their attitude and measures after the closing of the conference. Therefore, the next central committee meeting will demand self-criticism, of Konno in particular.

All comrades of the party! This is a report on the development of the recent disgraceful incident and on measures taken by the central committee of the Japanese Communist Party against the incident. Since the central committee fully realizes the importance of responsibility

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in guiding students' movements, it will exert its further efforts to improve and strengthen guidance in the future.

At the same time, the central committee hopes that each party organ will struggle further in cooperation with ardent and sincere student party members to destroy provocative and anti-party ideology entertained by some malignant elements, and also to strengthen the unity of the whole party for the successful results of the coming party congress.